

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CAIRO 15462 201547Z
ACTION NEA-11

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ECON, EGEN, EFIN
SUBJ: CABINET TO DISCUSS SPECIAL WAGE SCALE PAY RAISE

1. ACCORDING TO JUNE 20 AL AHAM, CABINET WILL SHORTLY BEGIN DISCUSSION OF AMENDMENTS TO SPECIAL WAGE SCALE WHICH REPORTEDLY INCLUDES MILITARY, POLICE, DIPLOMATIC, JUDICIARY, UNIVERSITY AND ADMINISTRATIVE SALARIES. AMENDMENTS WILL, ACCORDING TO PRESS, ADJUST SALARIES UPWARDS IN LIGHT OF PUBLIC SECTOR AND CIVIL SERVICE SALARY INCREASES. PRESS PREDICTS QUICK CABINET ACTION IN ORDER TO BRING BILL BEFORE PA AT ITS JUNE 24 SESSION.

2. COMMENT: NEW PAY RAISE IS PART OF GOE'S EFFORTS TO DEAL WITH GROWING SENSE OF DISSATISFACTION WITH CURRENT ECONOMIC "SQUEEZE." NEED FOR REVISION OF SPECIAL WAGE SCALE SALARIES AT LEAST AS PRESSING AS THAT OF PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SECTORS IN VIEW OF IMPORTANCE OF THIS SECTOR'S (PARTICULARLY ARMED FORCE'S) SUPPORT FOR THE REGIME. IT IS NOT CLEAR WHY GOE DELAYED ACTION ON PAY RAISE UNTIL AFTER PASSAGE PUBLIC SECTOR/CIVIL SERVICE WAGE BILL. QUICK GOE ACTION ON PROPOSAL, HOWEVER, SHOULD REASSURE MILITARY, ET AL, THAT THEY ARE NOT FORGOTTEN. EILTS

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Message Attributes

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